

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ISLAMA 03248 031234Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-15 SP-02 H-01 INR-10 PM-05 ISO-00
NEA-10 NSCE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00
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P R 031130Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6550

INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

S E C R E T ISLAMABAD 3248

DEPT PASS HORN OF AFRICA COLLECTIVE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, PBOR, PK, SO, ET

SUBJECT: MOOSE MISSION AND THE HORN-PAKISTAN'S VIEWS

REF: A) STATE 081714 B) ISLAMABAD 2667

1. DCM DISCUSSED THE MOOSE MISSION TO SOMALIA WITH MFA ADDITIONAL SECRETARY NAIK ON 3 APRIL ALONG LINES REFTTEL. NAIK MADE THE FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS:

A) PAKISTAN SHARES OUR IMPRESSION THAT THE MOOSE MISSION WAS A "SUCCESSFUL, TIMELY VISIT", AND APPRECIATES THE US WILLINGNESS TO HELP SOMALIA.

B) PAKISTAN BELIEVES THAT SIAD BARRE'S CURRENT POSITION IS STRONG AND THAT THERE IS NO ONE ABLE TO CHALLENGE HIM AT THIS TIME. THE SOMALIS DO NOT FEEL THAT THEY HAVE BEEN DEFEATED: THEY DID NOT FIGHT THE ETHIOPIANS BUT RATHER A SUPER POWER, OVER WHOM THEY COULD NOT POSSIBLY BE VICTORIOUS.

C) BARRE IS FACED WITH A "TERRIBLE DILEMMA", HOWEVER,
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 ISLAMA 03248 031234Z

BECAUSE ALL SIDES ARE INSISTING THAT HE RENOUNCE SOMALIA'S CLAIM TO THE OGADEN. HE MUST RECONCILE SOMALI "PUBLIC OPINION" WITH HIS NEED FOR OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE. THE PAKISTANI RECOMMENDATION IS THAT BARRE SHOULD BE ALLOWED SOME TIME RATHER THAN BE PRESSED FOR AN IMMEDIATE DECLARATION. DCM STATED THAT WE RECOGNIZE THE SENSITIVITY OF THE ISSUE FOR BARRE, BUT WE CANNOT

SUPPLY MILITARY EQUIPMENT WITHOUT ASSURANCES.

2. ACCORDING TO NAIK, THE PAK AMBASSADOR IN ADDIS ABABA HAS REPORTED THAT PUBLIC KILLINGS HAVE BEGUN AGAIN. COL. MENGISTU HAS NOT BEEN SEEN IN PUBLIC FOR APPROXIMATELY ONE WEEK, AND THERE IS SPECULATION THAT HE MAY BE ON A SECRET MISSION TO MOSCOW. THE INTERNAL STRUGGLE WITHIN THE DIRG IS INTENSIFYING: MENGISTU HAS BEEN STRENGTHENED BY THE VICTORY OVER SOMALIA, AND AS A RESULT HIS OPPOSITION IS STEPPING UP ITS CAMPAIGN AGAINST HIM. THERE IS NOTABLE PUBLIC RESENTMENT OF THE CUBANS AND SOVIETS.

3. NAIK FEELS THAT SOMALIA MAY BRING UP THE OGADEN ISSUE AT THE ISLAMIC FOREIGN MINISTER'S CONFERENCE SCHEDULED FOR 24 APRIL IN DAKAR. IN THE PAST, HE SAID, THE FOREIGN MINISTERS HAVE GIVEN MORAL AND POLITICAL SUPPORT TO THE ERITREANS, WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF SUPPORT FOR THE TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF ETHIOPIA, BUT THE OGADEN HAS NOT BEEN AN ISSUE. HE FEELS THAT THE SOMALIS COULD NOW MAKE IT AN ISSUE, ALTHOUGH THEIR BEST CHANCE OF SUCCESS IS TO RAISE IT IN THE CONTEXT OF THE PRESENCE OF NON-AFRICAN TROOPS IN AFRICA. AT PRESENT, NAIK SAID, THERE IS SOME DISUNITY AMONG THE ISLAMIC COUNTRIES ON THE SOMALIAN QUESTION. NAIK ALSO COMMENTED THAT A SUMMIT OF THE ARAB LEAGUE HAS BEEN CALLED BECAUSE OF RECENT MIDDLE EASTERN DEVELOPMENTS,

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 ISLAMA 03248 031234Z

AND THAT IF THIS SUMMIT ACTUALLY TAKES PLACE, THIS COULD FORCE THE POSTPONEMENT OF THE ISLAMIC FOREIGN MINISTER'S CONFERENCE.

HUMMEL

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED HORN OF AFRICA COLLECTIVE.

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NNN

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